

From: Eva Mesmer
To: Kathleen Abernathy
Date: Sun, May 4, 2003 11:12 AM
Subject: Prevent centralization of media

Date: 4 May 2003
From: Eva Mesmer
To: Kathleen Q. Abernathy
Subject: Prevent centralization of media

Dear Ms. Abernathy,

As the FCC considers new regulations regarding ownership of media in the United States, I urge you to make sure that you promote multiplicity of ownership, so that it is impossible for one or a few giant corporations to control the American media.

We are already at a crisis point in this regard. Five giants own 90% of the media, and this has resulted in biased reporting and poor news coverage. Independence of view and analysis has suffered immensely.

The FCC must take steps to encourage independent reporting and analysis and freer access to government news sources. Don't allow the American media to become monotonous and biased!

Sincerely,

Eva Mesmer
Lyons Colorado 80540

From: Max Johnson
To: Kathleen Abernathy
Date: Sun, May 4, 2003 11:19 AM
Subject: Media Monopolies

Honorable Kathleen Q. Abernathy
Commissioner
Federal Communications Commission

Ms. Abernathy:

I am writing to express my belief that the FCC should not relax the ownership rules concerning media monopolies. I was alerted to the fact that public comment was being taken by the FCC. I do not believe that media corporations or individuals should control all or the greater part of the media outlets in any area, local, state or national. I believe that the current FCC regulations have done a positive service to the nation by allowing other points-of-view to be expressed through a diverse media. I believe that allowing a small, but powerful, group of corporations and individuals to own a majority of the media outlets would stifle speech in this country. Again, I urge to keep the current regulations on monopolies in place

--- Max Johnson
--- hippo2000@earthlink.net
--- EarthLink: The #1 provider of the Real Internet.

From: John Gontkof
To: Mike Powell, Kathleen Abernathy, Michael Copps, KM KJMWEB, Commissioner Adelstein
Date: Sun, May 4, 2003 11:24 AM
Subject: Broadcast Ownership Rules

Dear Commissioner,

I urge you NOT to relax the broadcast ownership rules that protect American citizens from media monopolies. These proposed changes would pave the way for giant media conglomerates to gain near total control of radio and television news and information in communities across our nation. Many of the corporations that are now lobbying the FCC to relax these ownership rules already have a known track record in attempting to keep opposing viewpoints off the air. The American people deserve to hear more than one point of view on important issues. Therefore, for the sake of our democracy and our freedom, I urge you to continue the broadcast ownership protections that, for decades, have helped to ensure a healthy political debate in our country.

Sincerely,

John J. Gontkof
907 Prospect Ave
Spring Lake Heights, NJ 07762

From: Mike Mickus
To: Michael Copps
Date: Sun, May 4, 2003 11:32 AM
Subject: Strengthen the Broadcast Ownership Rules

Dear Honorable Michael J. Copps:

I urge you to NOT relax the broadcast ownership rules that protect American citizens from media monopolies. Rather the rules should be strengthened to promote more diversity in ownership.

These proposed changes would prove the way for giant media conglomerates to gain near total control of radio and television news and information in communities across our nation. And many of the corporations that are now lobbying for FCC to relax these ownership rules already have a known track record in attempting to keep opposing viewpoints off the air.

The people in America deserve to hear more than one point of view on important issues. Therefore, for the sake of our democracy and our freedom, I urge you to continue or increase the broadcast ownership protections that, for decades, have helped to ensure a healthy political debate in our country.

Sincerely,
Michael J. Mickus
Hubbell, MI 49934-0511

From: Judyth A. Bruno, D.C.
To: Kathleen Abernathy
Date: Sun, May 4, 2003 11:39 AM
Subject: Broadcast Ownership Rules

The Honorable Kathleen O. Abernathy, Commissioner

Dear Ms. Abernathy:

I have great concern about the loss of personal freedoms and the government surreptitiously whittling away our constitutional rights. Relaxing the broadcast ownership rules is another way of silencing the individual in order to pave the way for giant media conglomerates to gain near total control of radio and television news and information in communities across the nation. Many of the corporations that are now lobbying the FCC to relax these ownership rules already have a known track record in attempting to keep opposing viewpoints off the air.

To have a vital nation it is important that our population have more than one point of view available to them on important issues. For the sake of democracy and our freedom, I urge you to continue the broadcast ownership protections that, for decades, have helped to ensure a healthy political debate in our country.

Sincerely,

Judyth A. Bruno
Route 1, Box 70-D
Trout Creek MI 49967

From: CBeesleySF@aol.com
To: Kathleen Abernathy
Date: Sun, May 4, 2003 11:42 AM
Subject: No Subject

I am OPPOSED to the further dismantling of the rules governing ownership of the airways which belong to the American people!

From: LARKHE@aol.com
To: Kathleen Abernathy
Date: Sun, May 4, 2003 12:06 PM
Subject: Broadcast Ownership Rules

The Honorable Kathleen Q. Abernathy, Commissioner:

Please do not relax broadcast ownership rules that protect American citizens from media monopolies.

As a proud American, and a Life Member of the National Rifle Association of America I believe in all of the Amendments to the U.S. Constitution.

I feel that media monopolies could endanger every American's First Amendment right of Free Speech. That would be a terrible thing to happen, even if my fellow Americans disagreed with my interpretation of our Second Amendment rights.

In your wisdom and loyalty to America, I hope you will not let that happen.

Thank you for taking the time to read this and consider my opinion.

Mr. Richard J. Rick
22 Oliver Rd.
Manchester, CT. 06040-2942

From: Peter Alsop
To: Mike Powell, Kathleen Abernathy, Michael Copps, KM KJMWEB, Commissioner Adelstein
Date: Sun, May 4, 2003 12:07 PM
Subject: Please don't allow for privatization of radio and tv

Dear Commissioners,

Please do what you can to ensure that local radio can flourish, with local people running the stations and local news and programming on the air. Just because bigger organizations can afford to run small stations, does not mean it's good for our country. We need more local control of the airways. Thanks.

Peter Alsop

Check out my website at <http://www.peteralsop.com> for my kid's CD's, videos, cassettes, & songbooks AND my Professional Laughter Series! My touring schedule is there, so come see me IN CONCERT! Or you can CALL ME, 800-676-5480, to set up a concert in your town!

From: Dan
To: Kathleen Abernathy
Date: Sun, May 4, 2003 12:14 PM
Subject: Fw: Removal of Restrictions

----- Original Message -----

From: Dan
To: mpowell@fcc.gov
Sent: Sunday, May 04, 2003 11:14 AM
Subject: Removal of Restrictions

Chairman Powell:

This letter is to protest the planned June 3rd vote to allow the large communications companies to own more than thirty five percent of the media market in given areas.

It is our feeling that we must keep diversity in the news reporting that the American people use to form judgments regarding current policies contemplated by our government.

Please delay the vote until forums are held throughout the country to allow you to better hear what the American people think on this subject.

Daniel R. and Barbara J. Haider
2950 C.R. 219
Florence, Texas 76527
e-mail: danbarh@vvm.com

From: Ronald Bos
To: Kathleen Abernathy, Michael Copps, Commissioner Adelstein
Date: Sun, May 4, 2003 12:15 PM
Subject: 36% Rule

Commissioners:

DO NOT allow an entity to own more than 35% of the countries media market.

To think that, that would improve programing is absurd.

Ron Bos
Blacksburg, VA

From: Elbecton@aol.com
To: Michael Copps
Date: Sun, May 4, 2003 12:20 PM
Subject: Broadcast Ownership Rules

Dear Ccommissioner Copps,

I am writing this e-mail to urge you to not support the effort being made to relax the broadcast ownership rules that currently protect American citizens from Media Monopolies.

To relax the broadcast ownership rules would make it easier for some already too large conglomerates to gain near-total control of the airways. The American Citizens need to hear all sides of an issue so that they can make up their own minds regarding that issue. They do not deserve to have the media controlled by monopolies that can prevent opinions different from their own being aired. For this reason, and for the sake of democracy and freedom, I urge you to continue the broadcast ownership protections that have helped to ensure the healthy debate and dissemination of all viewpoints to the American people

Thank you

Edwin L. Becton
1908 Kingston Dr.
Gastonia, NC 28052-7610

From: Elbecton@aol.com
To: Kathleen Abernathy
Date: Sun, May 4, 2003 12:20 PM
Subject: Broadcast Ownership Rules

Dear Commissioner Abernathy,

I am writing this e-mail to urge you to not support the effort being made to relax the broadcast ownership rules that currently protect American citizens from Media Monopolies.

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Thank you

Edwin L. Becton
1908 Kingston Dr.
Gastonia, NC 28052-7610

From: Guido Perez
To: Mike Powell, Commissioner Adelstein, KM KJMWEB, Michael Copps, Kathleen Abernathy
Date: Sun, May 4, 2003 12:24 PM
Subject: Public Hearings

Honorable Commissioners,

I would like to support Mr. Copps efforts to hold additional hearings nationwide with regard to proposed FCC regulations. Most people in our country have not had the opportunity to familiarize themselves with the proposed changes in the regulations.

As we promote democratic values worldwide it behooves all of us, under your leadership, to actively engage in open dialogue.

Sincerely,

Guido Perez, MD

From: Snsk8tr@cs.com
To: Kathleen Abernathy
Date: Sun, May 4, 2003 12:27 PM
Subject: regulation changes

Hello, my name is Mr. Chambers. I wish to express concern over the proposed regulatory changes. Freedom of information is best achieved when we have a diversity to chose from. Please protect the ctiizens of this country, by keeping the regulations in place. Thank you.

From: Bob Walker
To: Kathleen Abernathy
Date: Sun, May 4, 2003 12:32 PM
Subject: Broadcast Ownership Rules

Dear Ms. Abernathy:

It is my understanding that major media corporations are putting intense pressure on the FCC to make sweeping changes in the FCC rules that prohibit monopoly ownership of media sources in my community and across the United states.

I urge you not to relax the broadcast ownership rules that protect American citizens from media monopolies. If the proposed rules are adopted, independent voices in cities across the United States could be snuffed out by huge media corporations. Whole communities and even whole states and regions could be dominated by one media company which could decide which viewpoints to allow on the air and which to censor.

The big media conglomerates have in the past used their power to keep opposing viewpoints off the air. These proposed rule changes would give them far greater power to keep opposing views off the air and out of the newspapers.

Many of the corporations that are fighting for these rule changes - including media giants Viacom/CBS and Disney/ABC - are precisely the same companies that have tried in the past to keep viewpoints off the air when they don't agree with them.

The American people deserve to hear more than one point of view on important issues. Therefore, for the sake of our democracy and our freedom, I urge you to continue the broadcast ownership protections that, for decades, have helped to ensure a health political debate in our country.

Robert A. Walker, Jr.

Columbia, South Carolina 29212-8506

From: Joe Gershen
To: Mike Powell
Date: Sun, May 4, 2003 12:38 PM
Subject: Upcoming FCC vote on media deregulation.

Dear Chairman Powell,

Further consolidation of the media in the name of "deregulation" is un-American and must be halted. We used to have a free media in this country. My father was a Viet Nam war correspondent and winner of the Ernie Pyle and Sigma Delta Chi awards. If he were alive today I believe that he would be horrified at what has happened, and unfortunately continues to happen, to the media in our great nation.

The media companies have failed in their public trust to provide unbiased information about most crucial issues, most notably the recent coverage of the war in Iraq. As an American concerned about our democracy, I call on you to challenge the media conglomerates, to open the broadcast spectrum to a diverse range of journalists and opinions, and to reinstate the Fairness Doctrine. I urge you in every way to oppose media deregulation.

Very Sincerely,

Joe Gershen

--

From: Cherise Williams
To: Michael Copps
Date: Sun, May 4, 2003 12:39 PM
Subject: consolidation of media ownership

Please know, that I am against further consolidation of media ownership. My local newspaper was bought out by Gannett, several years ago, and I have since stopped subscribing to it. It had been a newspaper that I was proud to have represent my city.

Please count me, as an individual that wishes much debate on this, before it moves forward.

Thank-you,
Cherise Williams
P.O. Box 4825
Louisville, KY. 40204

From: Joe Gershen
To: Kathleen Abernathy
Date: Sun, May 4, 2003 12:39 PM
Subject: Upcoming FCC vote on media deregulation.

Dear Commissioner Abernathy,

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Very Sincerely,

Joe Gershen

--

From: TheRiverCat@aol.com
To: mpowell@fcc.gov
cc:
Subject: Broadcast Ownership

Dear Mr. Powell:

I urge you not to relax the broadcast ownership rules that protect American citizens from media monopolies.

These proposed changes would pave the way for giant media conglomerates to gain near-total control of radio and television news and information in communities across our nation. And many of these corporations that are now lobbying the FCC to relax these ownership rules already have a known track record in attempting to keep opposing viewpoints off the air.

The American people deserve to hear more than one point of view on important issues. Therefore, for the sake of our democracy and our freedom, I urge you to continue the broadcast ownership protections that, for decades, have helped to ensure a healthy debate in our country.

Sincerely,
Michael C. Conner
Marion, Ar.

From: TheRiverCat@aol.com
To: mpowell@fcc.gov
cc:
Subject: Broadcast Ownership

Dear Mr. Powell:

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The American people deserve to hear more than one point of view on important issues. Therefore, for the sake of our democracy and our freedom, I urge you to continue the broadcast ownership protections that, for decades, have helped to ensure a healthy debate in our country.

Sincerely,
Michael C. Conner
Marion, Ar.

From: DoctaSanPedro@aol.com
To: Kathleen Abernathy
Date: Sun, May 4, 2003 12:58 PM
Subject: Concerning Micheal Copps!

Dear Commissioner Miss Abernathy,

This letter is in response to seeing Micheal Copps on the t.v. show NOW on Sunday May 4th.

There is no way on earth that allowing corporations to own more than 35% of specific media markets can be good for the public. This is a slippery slope that can lead to one group of people deciding what the entire country should view and hear on the airwaves. Even ownership of one third of the market in this respect is frightening.

Common decency needs to be present on June 2nd when the vote is cast. Please do not let media giants grow and grow. If ignorance prevails, the quality of the media can only go down hill, and our minds will suffer. There is no way that allowing consolidation of power and influence can be good for the public.

DO NOT LET US DOWN

We need to keep the airwaves open and not let corporations start to monopolize them. The public needs to be helped against multi-trillionare mega empires.

please do what is right

Sincerely,
Richard Coffman
Winfield, IL

From: Con Wisniewski
To: Kathleen Abernathy, Mike Powell, Michael Copps, KM KJMWEB, Commissioner Adelstein
Date: Sun, May 4, 2003 1:00 PM
Subject: impending rule change concerns

Gentlemen,

I wish to register my concerns regarding impending rule changes being contemplated by the FCC. In particular, I have read that within the next 30 days, it is highly possible that the current rules that regulate the media industry could be dramatically altered by the FCC. I am greatly concerned that if current anti-monopolistic regulations are relaxed, then large media corporations could gain control of the industry through acquisition and could strongly bias the flow of news and information towards their own corporate interests.

Any changes regarding these regulations should be openly brought to the general public's attention and a thorough public examination should take place. There should be no hints of secrecy or hidden agendas surrounding the altering of the current rules. Too much is at stake to do otherwise.

Greatly concerned,

Conrad Wisniewski
48102 Whitney Ct.
Canton, Michigan 48187
cwisniewski239928MI@comcast.net

From: Louise Young
To: Kathleen Abernathy
Date: Sun, May 4, 2003 1:19 PM
Subject: Support continued regulation on June 2, 2003

Dear Commissioner Abernathy,

I am a citizen concerned about the FCC's upcoming decision regarding the deregulation of media ownership. Already consolidation of radio and television stations, and merging of newspapers has taken the local out of local news.

Though private ownership is part of our country's great heritage of creating opportunity for personal success, ownership of the airways is public. Media owners are using space owned by all of us, and if the FCC deregulates further, the public will risk having little choice in what we see on TV, hear on the radio, and read in the papers.

Please preserve what we have left of media diversity. In our country today, we need to hear many voices and read many stories to keep alive our freedom of choice in a democracy.

Yours sincerely,

Louise Young
43300 Airport Rd.
Little River, CA 95456

From: Joel McManus
To: Michael Copps
Date: Sun, May 4, 2003 1:27 PM
Subject: Against mass media deregulation

Dear Commissioner Copps,

Hello. My name is Charles Joel McManus. I am a graduate student at the University of Wisconsin-Madison and consider myself to be a responsible, active citizen interested in preserving the freedoms granted to citizens of the United States under the Constitution. It has come to my attention that there will be a decision on June 2 about whether or not it is legal and just to allow any media companies to control large percentages of our local and national mass media. I urge you to vote against allowing this deregulation of our mass media for the following reasons.

First and foremost, deregulation and centralization of media will erode the ability for different voices and opinions to be made public. This threatens to destroy one of the foundations of our democratic society, free speech. For a recent example, I refer you to what has happened to Peter Arnett, the Pulitzer Prize winning journalist. Mr. Arnett was working for NBC and National Geographic covering our recent invasion of Iraq and made the "mistake" of expressing his opinion about the war publicly. For exercising his freedom of speech, Mr. Arnett was fired from both NBC and National Geographic assignments. NBC could not afford to allow an even slightly dissenting voice to be heard as they are driven by profits, not truth. Allowing mass media to consolidate erodes public access to voices and opinions that do not reinforce the status quo or make money for large corporations.

This brings me to the second reason for my position against deregulation of the mass media. Mass media is driven by profit and will therefore express whatever opinion allows them to make the most money. On television, radio, and in the printed press, this system stifles voices and opinions which make people question themselves, their government, and their society. Without questioning these things, people in this country will find it hard to become active, well-informed participants in our great Republic. We cannot allow profits to determine truth by exclusion of that which is unprofitable. Deregulation of our mass media will exacerbate an already large problem.

Thirdly, consolidation of mass media into large companies is anti-capitalist. As we both know, capitalism can only occur when a very large number of companies compete. Allowing some companies to grow very large and absorb the smaller ones, while often efficient, tends to kill competition as there are fewer competitors. As an American and a believer in capitalism, this is a very disturbing prospect for our mass media.

Finally, I ask you to imagine the long term effects of deregulation of the mass media. Imagine turning on your television and seeing several different channels with different faces all reading the same dialogues. Imagine finding the same song simultaneously on every radio station and the same article, word for word, in every newspaper. While this sounds extreme, this is likely what would happen from deregulation of the mass media. This very well could be the country that our children and grandchildren inherit. In this world, dissenting opinions will have no chance of finding

expression, as they will be bleached out by the incessant, loud, surrounding voice of a few companies hell-bent on making profits. I hope that you are as disturbed by the idea as I am.

I urge you to consider my opinions and help protect freedom of speech in this great country of ours by opposing deregulation of the mass media on June 2 of this year.

Sincerely,
Charles Joel McManus
408 W. Mifflin St. #4
Madison, WI 53703.

From: OGLE802824@aol.com
To: Mike Powell, Kathleen Abernathy, Michael Copps, KM KJMWEB, Commissioner Adelstein
Date: Sun, May 4, 2003 1:40 PM
Subject: Broadcast Ownership Rules

Dear Sir:

I urge you not to relax the broadcast ownership rules that protect American citizens from media monopolies. This is unfairly being slipped over the American public without their knowledge.

These proposed changes would pave the way for giant media conglomerates to gain near-total control of radio and television news and information in communities across our nation. And many of the corporations that are now lobbying the FCC to relax these ownership rules already have a known track record in attempting to keep opposing viewpoints off the air.

The American people deserve to hear more than one point of view on important issues. Therefore, for the sake of our democracy and our freedom, I urge you to continue the broadcast ownership protections that, for decades, have helped to ensure a healthy political debate in our country.

Sincerely,

Owen C. Gleaves
Mount Juliet, Tennessee 37122-5709

From: SMMTVISTA@aol.com
To: Kathleen Abernathy
Date: Sun, May 4, 2003 1:59 PM
Subject: Broadcast Ownership rules

Dear Ms. Abernathy:

I think it would be un-American to relax the broadcast ownership rules that protect the American public from the giant media conglomerates! To allow a small number of corporations or individuals to have a virtual monopoly of the news on radio, television and newspapers should be unconstitutional. I therefore urge you not to change the existing rules -- the American people deserve to hear more than one point of view on important issues.

For the sake of our democracy and our freedom, I urge you to continue the broadcast protections that have helped to insure a healthy political debate in this country for decades.

Thank you.

Spencer Mould
Lexington, Va. 24450-3918

From: Brent Hymer
To: Mike Powell, Kathleen Abernathy, KM KJMWEB, Michael Copps, Commissioner Adelstein
Date: Sun, May 4, 2003 2:13 PM
Subject: Please don't loosen or eliminate rules

Gentlemen,

It is my understanding that the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) is considering relaxing or getting rid of rules to allow much more media concentration. Please don't do it!

Now, assuming we all live in the same country, you are all well aware of Telecommunications Act of 1996 and the unprecedented consolidation that resulted from this irresponsible legislation. It's well past time to reign in corporate consolidation. Need I remind you that the FCC exists to protect the public, not corporations? Frankly, the FCC is failing at its most crucial duty. As you prepare to make important decisions regarding FCC rules, please, remember whose interests you are supposed to be looking out for.

Sincerely,

Brent Hymer

Burlington, MA
781-272-7784

CC: FCC FCCINFO, ted_Kennedy@Kennedy.senate.gov,
John_Tierney@Tierney.house.gov, john_kerry@kerry.senate.gov, president@whitehouse.gov,
vice.president@whitehouse.gov

From: Morris D Sullivan
To: Michael Copps
Date: Sun, May 4, 2003 2:32 PM
Subject: Broadcast Ownership Rules

Dear Mr. Copps,

I urge you NOT to relax the broadcast ownership rules that protect American citizens from media monopolies. These proposed changes would pave the way for giant media conglomerates to gain near-total control of radio and television news and information in communities across our nation. Also, many of the corporations that are now lobbying the FCC to relax these ownership rules already have a known track record in attempting to keep opposing viewpoints off the air.

The American people deserve to hear more than one point of view on important issues. Therefore, for the sake of our democracy and our freedom, I urge you to continue the broadcast ownership protections that, for decades, have helped to ensure a political debate in our country.

Sincerely,

Morris D. Sullivan
6018 Burnt Knob Rd.
Murfreesboro, TN 37129-2628

From: ChasNouille@aol.com
To: Michael Copps
Date: Sun, May 4, 2003 2:35 PM
Subject: Broadcast Rules

I urge you NOT to relax the broadcast ownership rules that protect American citizens from media monopolies.

If the proposed "broadcast ownership rules" are adopted, independent voices in cities across the United States could be snuffed out by huge media corporations.

Whole communities, and even whole states and regions, could be dominated by one media company which could decide which viewpoints to allow on the air and which to censor.

The big media conglomerates have in the past used their power to keep opposing viewpoints off the air. These proposed rule changes would give them far greater power to keep opposing views off the air and out of the newspapers.

Many of the corporations that are fighting for these rule changes, including media giants Viacom/CBS and Disney/ABC, are precisely the same companies that have tried in the past to keep other viewpoints off the air.

The American people deserve to hear more than one point of view on important issues. Therefore, for the sake of our democracy and our freedom, I urge you to continue the broadcast ownership protections that, for decades, have helped to ensure a healthy political debate in our country.

Sincerely,

Charles A. Noullet, Sr., Lacombe, LA